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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire

Letter dated 24 May 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

In reference to your letter dated 4 March 2005, I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Government of Mali, pursuant to paragraph 15 of Security Council resolution 1572 (2004) on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire (see annex).

(*Signed*) Cheick Sidi **Diarra**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 24 May 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

Report of the Government of Mali on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire

I. Introduction

1.1 Through its resolution 1572 (2004) of 15 November 2004, the United Nations Security Council imposed an embargo on the supply of arms to Côte d'Ivoire. The measures envisaged in this connection are set forth in paragraph 7 of that resolution.

The resolution also calls for measures to restrict the movement and freeze the assets of persons who constitute a threat to the peace and national reconciliation process in Côte d'Ivoire.

To date, these persons have not been identified by the Committee established for that purpose.

Therefore, this report deals only with the provisions of paragraph 7 of the resolution, which are enforceable at this time.

1.2 Wording of the paragraph

In paragraph 7, the Security Council "Decides that all States shall, for a period of thirteen months from the date of adoption of this resolution, take the necessary measures to prevent the direct or indirect supply, sale or transfer to Côte d'Ivoire, from their territories or by their nationals, or using their flag vessels or aircraft, of arms or any related material, in particular military aircraft and equipment, whether or not originating in their territories, as well as the provision of any assistance, advice or training related to military activities".

II. Implementation of paragraph 7 of resolution 1572 (2004)

Several ministries are involved in effective implementation of the measures decreed by the Security Council, each according to its own specific area of competence.

2.1 Legislative and regulatory provisions

Pursuant to the provisions which govern foreign trade in Mali (Decree No. 00-505/P-RM of 16 October 2000 and Order No. 01-2699/MIC of 16 October 2001 which establish the list of products whose import and export are prohibited), the import of arms and ammunition requires prior authorization from the security services.

2.2 Government instructions

Following the adoption of Security Council resolution 1572 (2004), the National Technical Committee on Follow-up to the Ivorian Crisis prepared a task table for use by the technical ministries involved in the implementation of sanctions.

By letter No. 1161-PM-CAB of 3 December 2004, the Prime Minister and Head of Government invited the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to inform each ministerial department of its responsibilities with

respect to the only executable provisions of the resolution: those concerning the arms embargo.

2.2.1 Territorial and local administration

With a view to the effective implementation of paragraph 7 of the resolution, the Ministry of Territorial Administration transmitted the text of the resolution to all regional governors and to the Governor of the District of Bamako on 3 December 2004 and asked them to ensure full respect for its provisions.

He also invited them to communicate any information on infractions or violations of the resolution.

In application of this circular, the following measures were taken throughout Mali:

- Strengthened surveillance of road traffic;
- Verification of identity at checkpoints upon entry to and exit from towns;
- Registration of Ivorians and vehicles originating in Côte d'Ivoire;
- Closing of checkpoint barriers at night; crossing is not authorized until passengers' identities and vehicles' documentation have been verified;
- Increased surveillance of foreigners, including citizens of countries associated with international terrorism and potential importers of arms or drugs in transit through Mali; and
- Strengthened cooperation between the security services, armed forces, customs offices, nature conservation bodies, trade and competitiveness services, transport workers' unions and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

It should also be noted that special measures had already been taken in the Sikasso region, which borders on Côte d'Ivoire, to prevent any infiltration of armed combatants from that country.

2.2.2 Security and civil defence

By circular dated 11 February 2005, the Ministry of Internal Security and Civil Defence transmitted resolution 1572 (2004) to the police, gendarmerie, national guard and civil defence services and asked them to monitor scrupulously its implementation in full and to submit a detailed report on each known case.

2.2.3 Financial and customs administration

By letter dated 13 December 2004, the Ministry of the Economy and Finance instructed the Director-General of Customs to monitor scrupulously respect for the measures envisaged in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the resolution.

The same instruction was given to the National Director of the Treasury and Public Administration.

III. Monitoring structures

In light of the fact that until September 2002, some 70 per cent of Mali's imports and exports passed through the port of Abidjan, the Malian Government took measures at the beginning of the Ivorian crisis to prevent any prolongation of that situation from having a negative impact on the nation's supply system.

On 3 October 2002, it therefore established a body — the Institutional Monitoring Framework for the Crisis Situation in Côte d'Ivoire — to monitor the political, economic, social and humanitarian aspects of the crisis.

This body, which includes an Interministerial Committee and a National Technical Committee, became responsible for monitoring the implementation of paragraph 7 of Security Council resolution 1572 (2004).

IV. Conclusion

Mali is a landlocked country bordering on Côte d'Ivoire and therefore heavily dependent on the port of Abidjan, and is home to some 2 million Ivorians; it is therefore in its interests for the Ivorian crisis to end as soon as possible.

Therefore, from the beginning of the events, and even before the adoption of resolution 1572 (2004), it took a series of measures to ensure that the parties to the conflict could not supply themselves with weapons from Mali.

To date, no violation of the embargo in the national territory has been discovered.

Bamako, [ ] 2005